

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1, 2 and 3 are respectively amended to correct the reference number of insertion from -- 121 -- to “122”, and the reference number of the first hole from -- 122 -- to “1220”. The amended drawings are attached with the amendment.

REMARKS

The specification and drawings are respectively amended to correct the reference number of insertion from -- 121 -- to "122", and the reference number of the first hole from -- 122 -- to "1220". The amended drawings marked with "Replacement Sheet" are attached with the amendment. It is believed that the objection should be removed.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Hsieh (Des. 434,292). In addition, Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Hsieh (Des. 434,292) in view of Hung (6,336,383 B1).

Responsive to this, claims 3 and 4 are deleted and claim 1 is amended which is substantially the combination of original claims 1, 3 and 4 so as to make the claimed invention more distinguishably patentable over the prior arts cited by the Examiner. Although examiner points out that Hsieh discloses a reinforcement protrusion and a thumb area on the reinforcement protrusion, applicant respectfully disagrees the rejections. It is noted that the reinforcement protrusions of the claimed hand tool extend perpendicularly from the two wide surfaces respectively and located close to the first end of the handle. Assume that the twist portion at the mediate portion of the handle of the new design by Hsieh is the part that the examiner deems as the reinforcement protrusion, the twist portion **does not extend perpendicularly from the wide surface of the handle** of the new design by Hsieh. In other words, the new design to Hsieh includes a handle which includes two sections separated by the

twist portion and the two sections are respectively connected to a wrench and a box end. The two sections each include two opposite wide surfaces and the wide surfaces of the two sections are perpendicular with each other. Each of the wide surfaces of each of the two sections has a flat surface, no protrusion extends from either of the wide surfaces. On the contrary, the reinforcement protrusion (13) of the claimed hand tool extends from each of the wide surfaces. Therefore, the new design by Hsieh cannot anticipate the claimed hand tool. Besides, the twist portion (reinforcement protrusion) is not located close to the first end of the handle as defined in the claimed hand tool.

Obviously, for the claimed hand too, the reinforcement protrusion extending from each of the wide surfaces reinforces the structural strength of the handle so that when rotating the handle to output a torque, the torque is applied the same direction of the rotation of the handle, and the reinforcement protrusion effectively reinforces the ability of the handle to bear the torque. On the contrary, the two sections of the handle of the new design to Hsieh are elongate and flat handle which does not have any reinforcement design to bear torque applied to the handle when using the tool. If the box end is used to output a torque, and the user holds the section close to the box end, the direction of rotation is perpendicular to the narrow surfaces of the section of the handle so that a large pressure applies to the fingers or palm of the user on the narrow surface of the handle. If the user holds the section that is close to the wrench end and the object to be tightened or loosened is engaged with

the box end, the direction of the rotation is perpendicular to the wide surfaces of that section that the user holds, no reinforcement protrusion on that section to reinforce the structural strength of that section. Accordingly, the so called reinforcement protrusion does not exist on the handle of the new design to Hsieh.

The thumb area as disclosed in Fig. 1 of the present application is located such that the user's thumb can put on the thumb area and the thumb can completely put on a plane not a twisted or curve plane. As disclosed in the new design to Hsieh, the twist portion can only provide a twist or curve surface for the thumb. Basically, when using the tool of the new design to Hsieh, the user's thumb can only apply a part of the force to rotate the handle because the force applied to the twist or curve area is composed of several component forces in different directions. Accordingly, the new design to Hsieh does not anticipate the thumb area of the claimed hand tool.

It is believed that, the amended claim 1 has disclosed a structure whose construction and function are quite different from and patentably distinguishable over the cited prior arts. Therefore, it is believed that, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) should be removed, and the amended claim 1 should be allowable.

Claim 5 is amended to remove the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

It is further submitted the amended claims 2 and 5 should be allowable as they are dependent upon the amended claim 1 which is believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that

the application is now in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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